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The POULTRY and EGG SITUATION

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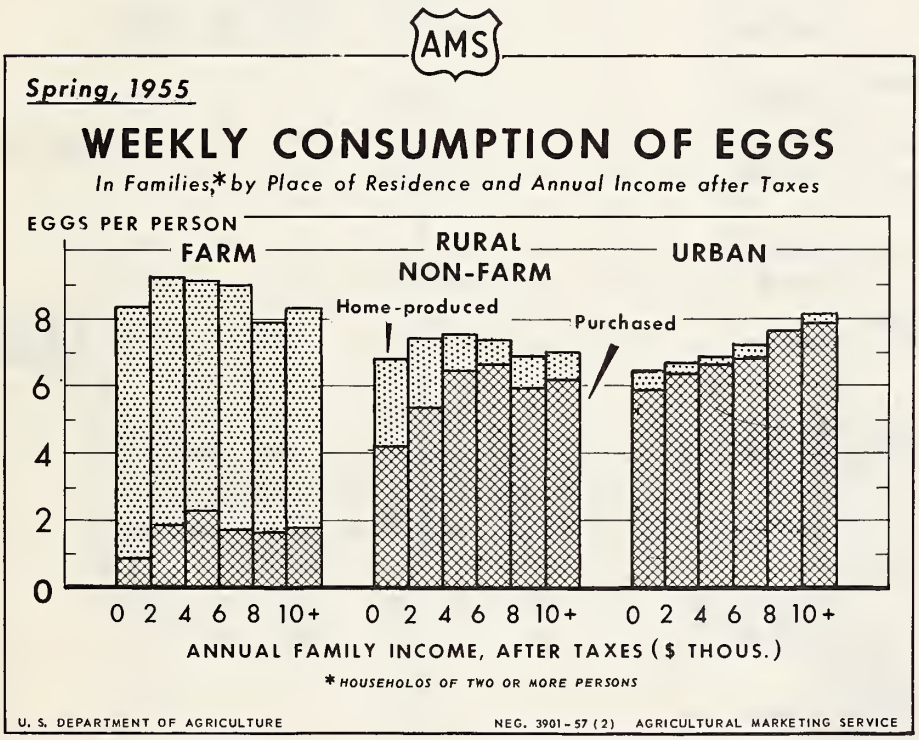

Almost all families in a nationwide sample whose food use was surveyed in the spring of 1955 used eggs. As would be expected on account of their home-produced supplies, farm families used more eggs per person than other groups. Data from the 1955 Survey of Household Food Consumption have now been published, and are the basis for the above chart. Analyses of these data will appear in further issues of this Situation.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

THE POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION AT A GLANCE

Item	Unit	Month or date	Average 1946-55 1/	1956 2/	1957 3/	Month or date	Average 1946-55	1956	1957	Comments on current situation
EGGS										
Farm production	Mil. doz.	Jan.	410.3	430.6	447.4	Feb.	419.0	429.4	418.5	February 1957 lower than 1956 because 1956 was a leap year.
Average number of layers on farms	Millions	Jan.	369.4	330.8	334.7	Feb.	360.6	324.9	326.3	
Rate of lay per layer	Eggs	Jan.	13.4	15.6	16.0	Feb.	14.0	15.9	15.4	
Apparent disappearance, shell eggs per civilian	Eggs	Dec.	30.3	30.8	4/31.2	Jan.	31.8	30.4	4/30.3	
Frozen egg production	Mil. lb.	Dec.	4.7	2.8	7.0	Jan.	15.4	6.8	14.1	Up from 1956, but so are storage holdings
Dried egg production	Mil. lb.	Dec.	1.8	0.5	1.6	Jan.	2.5	0.7	2.2	
Price received by farmers	Ct.per doz.	Jan.	41.7	46.6	33.2	Feb.	39.1	40.2	32.8	
Price received by farmers as a percentage of parity	Percent	Jan.	87	109	75	Feb.	91	103	78	
Retail price (AMS)	Ct.per doz.	Dec.	66.7	66.2	56.2	Jan.	60.2	65.5	52.0	Farm price decline fully reflected at retail
Egg-feed price ratio	Lb. feed	Jan.	11.0	13.7	9.3	Feb.	10.5	11.8	9.2	
Stocks:										
Shell	Thous.cases	Jan. 1	196	111	320	Feb. 1	210	299	330	
Frozen	Mil. lb.	Jan. 1	81.1	74.4	86.8	Feb. 1	66.5	50.5	74.9	
Chicks hatched by commercial hatcheries	Millions	Dec.	67.0	120.2	122.0	Jan.	92.5	149.9	157.2	Increase is in broiler chicks; laying-flock replacements are down
Farm price of poultry ration	Dol.per cwt	Jan.	3.83	3.39	3.58	Feb.	3.76	3.40	3.56	
POULTRY										
Price received by farmers for chickens, live										
Broilers	Ct. per lb.	Jan.	27.6	20.3	18.0	Feb.	27.1	21.4	19.4	
Farm chickens	Ct. per lb.	Jan.	24.2	19.3	14.1	Feb.	24.6	19.9	14.4	
All chickens	Ct. per lb.	Jan.	26.4	20.1	17.1	Feb.	26.4	21.0	18.4	
Price received by farmers for all chickens as a percentage of parity	Percent	Jan.	91	72	61	Feb.	91	75	65	
Retail price of broilers and fryers, dressed(AMS)	Ct. per lb.	Dec.	51.6	46.9	43.3	Jan.	51.4	46.6	43.9	
Price received by farmers for turkeys, live	Ct. per lb.	Jan.	34.9	31.0	27.6	Feb.	34.2	31.4	27.3	
Stocks:										
Poultry, excluding turkeys	Mil. lb.	Jan. 1	174.9	133.4	170.7	Feb. 1	160.8	118.8	158.1	High level for turkeys and fowl
Turkeys	Mil. lb.	Jan. 1	110.3	95.0	162.1	Feb. 1	117.4	95.9	170.9	
Broiler-feed price ratio	Lb. feed	Jan.	---	4.2	3.7	Feb.	---	4.4	3.9	
Turkey-feed price ratio	Lb. feed	Jan.	9.2	9.1	7.7	Feb.	9.1	9.2	7.7	
Average weekly placement of chicks in 22 important States	Millions	Jan.	---	21.9	24.7	Feb.	---	24.0	25.9	

1/ Except when data are for December, the average is for 1945-54.
2/ Except when data are for December, the year is 1955.
3/ Except when data are for December, the year is 1956.
4/ Partly estimated.

THE POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, March 12, 1957

CONTENTS

	Page
Summary	3
Egg production at high for the season: Price lags	4
Early replacement hatch smaller than in 1956	5
Storage the key to near-term prices	6
Hen-pullet distribution in current laying flock	7
Broilers: Placements 4-7 percent above year earlier	7
Turkeys: Large crop coming; storage holdings record	8
List of tables	10

SUMMARY

The outlook for egg prices to farmers in the last half of 1957 has been improved by the large cuts so far this year in hatchings of chicks for laying flock replacement. Hatchings in January were 21 percent below the same month last year and on February 1, 30 percent fewer replacement-type eggs were in incubators than a year earlier. The reduced early hatch indicates the probability of a larger cut in the fall pullet flock than anticipated earlier.

Farmers in January intended to raise 9 percent fewer chickens this year than last. This cut will be exceeded if hatchery operations are maintained at the early season level. However, the reduction is likely to be less than early in the season, because the prospect for improved prices next fall may stimulate hatchings of replacement chicks later this season.

Current egg prices are lower than at any time in the spring of either 1955 or 1956. Average production of about 3.5 million cases weekly in February was about on a par with the month's output in those years. The laying flock is less than 1 percent larger than a year ago, and production rates for the next 2 months or so are likely to peak at about year-ago levels.

Average prices this spring are likely to continue lower than a year earlier. This fall, however, prices are likely to average above a year earlier because of the reduction in laying flock replacement this spring.

Storage demand may be strong enough this spring to prevent further substantial egg price declines, if prospects continue for a sharply reduced pullet flock this fall. Also, since early in February, the Department of Agriculture has been buying about 50,000 cases of eggs weekly which have been used in the School Lunch Program.

Broiler production in 1956 rose to a record of 1.3 billion birds, 24 percent more than in 1955. Greater integration of production and marketing, and lower production costs, helped make the increase possible despite lower prices than in any year since 1941. Prices so far this year have been higher than in the last few months of 1956, but the U. S. average farmers' price of 19.4 cents in mid-February was 2 cents lower than a year earlier. Recent placements have been 4-7 percent higher than a year earlier.

Turkey hatchings to date exceed last year by more than farmers' January intentions which were to grow 10 percent more turkeys than in 1956. The 1956 crop of 76 million birds was record large. Per capita consumption equivalent to 5.1 pounds of ready-to-cook turkey was only 0.1 pound larger than in 1955. Storage stocks in late 1956 rose to a record high, and on February 1, 1957, were 75 million pounds above a year earlier. These large stocks, plus prospective larger supplies of fresh turkeys, will discourage price increases such as occurred in January-July last year. Current prices for frozen turkeys in New York City are 8 to 11 cents per pound below a year earlier.

CURRENT SITUATION AND OUTLOOK

Egg Production At High for the Season; Price Lags

Egg production in January was again at a record high level for that month, continuing the trend of the past decade, and February was about at the record of 1956, after allowance for the shorter month this year. Numbers of layers on hand were only slightly above a year earlier, though considerably lower than in other recent years. Rates of lay per bird were generally higher. Mid-month average egg prices received by farmers were the lowest of any month in the 2 years.

By mid-summer, prices will likely be rising, however, and for the second half of 1957 are likely to average higher than in 1956. This is because a smaller fall egg production than last year is expected to follow the cut in the 1957 replacement hatch.

In mid-January, the U. S. average egg price received by farmers was 33.2 cents per dozen, 13 cents lower than a year earlier. Egg prices rose slightly a few days after the January 25 announcement of resumption of United States Department of Agriculture's egg buying program. But prices later slipped back about to the mid-January level. In mid-February, the U. S. average was 32.8 cents, compared with 33.2 cents a month earlier and 40.2 cents a year earlier.

The USDA purchased 14,000 cases in the week of February 7, the first week of the renewed egg buying program, and the following amounts (thousands of cases) in successive following weeks: 48, 50, 56, and 49. These purchases have leveled off at a quantity consistent with the capacity of the School Lunch Program to absorb eggs. (About 12 million children attend schools to which eggs may be supplied.) This compares with peak-season egg production at the rate of about 4 million cases weekly. USDA's top paying price for large eggs in mid-western locations in mid-February was 34.90 cents per dozen.

Egg production is presently (mid-March) at or near its seasonal peak. After mid-February, the commercial breaking of eggs for frozen storage probably exceeded year-ago rates; weekly net reductions in frozen stocks in 35 cities were smaller than in 1956. Storage of shell eggs was on the whole greater to early March than a year ago. Total civilian disappearance was very slightly larger, but not by a percentage as large as the decline from a year ago in egg prices, nor as much as the 1½ percent annual increase in population. These increases were of course made possible by the production increase over the preceding year, particularly in the period centered on January 1, when output was 8 percent higher than a year earlier.

Early Replacement Hatch Smaller than in 1956

The number of replacement-type chicks produced in commercial hatcheries by March 1 had been cut substantially from the year before. In February, farmers had stated intentions of cutting their purchases of such chicks by 9 percent. Reductions in hatchings so far are much sharper, but the percentage cuts are likely to taper off in coming months. March, April, and May are the most important hatching months. About 63 percent of the replacement chicks were hatched in this period last year.

Hatchings of replacement-type chicks in December and January were respectively 8 and 21 percent lower than in the corresponding months a year earlier. Eggs in incubators February 1 were 30 percent fewer than a year earlier, when they were relatively high (table 9). Recent operations were below 1955 by a somewhat smaller percentage than the decline from 1956, a year of record-large January and February hatches for replacement purposes.

January hatchings of egg-type chicks in the East and West South Central States declined less than 10 percent. The total for the Mountain States was small but over a year earlier. Decreases in other regions, however, are sharp enough to make the 21 percent drop in January hatchings for the United States as a whole. Eggs in incubators on February 1 were down an average of 30 percent for the United States. The smallest cut was 8 percent in the East South Central States. The intentions survey indicates increases only for the East South Central and Pacific regions. The East and West South Central regions only recently have developed a sizable interest in commericial egg production. Promotion there for additional integrated controlled-quality flocks is reported to be stronger than in other areas of the country.

The intentions survey also reported that farmers plan no sharp change in the makeup of total replacement chick orders either for straight-run or sexed chicks. Revised data show a slight increase above previous estimates of the proportion of chicks sexed. (Sexing is the practice of sorting day-old chicks according to sex.) If farmers follow February intentions, they will buy 54 percent of their chicks as sexed pullets, compared with 53 percent last year and 50 percent in 1955. Previously, it was believed that fewer than 45 percent of purchases had been sexed chicks.

Storage the Key to Near-Term Prices

Storage of shell eggs has been encouraged by the favorable spread between the price for egg future contracts and the price of fresh eggs for current delivery. Contracts in mid-February for September and October delivery were about 38 cents per dozen in Chicago, and in early March were about 1½ cents lower. These prices compare with about 43-44 cents a year earlier and 34 and 31 cents respectively at the expiration of the September and October 1956 contracts. Fresh eggs suitable for storage fluctuated around 32 cents in mid-February 1957, and under 30 cents in early March, compared with 40 cents a year earlier. The difference in mid-February as well as in March between cash and future prices is considered greater than the costs of preparing eggs for storage and holding them to early fall.

Egg prices for the remainder of the spring are likely to continue below a year ago. They could hold for the next few months at about the level of early March, if demand for eggs for storage holds up well through the end of the flush production season, and if the hatch is reduced enough to increase prospective fall outlets for eggs from storage. But prices could decline further before mid-June if storage demand should be filled before the flush production period is over. This is a particular possibility if prices first rise high enough to encourage larger hatchings than are now in prospect.

Because monthly egg production to about mid-year will be considerably larger than current consumption, a sizable proportion of the output will go into storage. Although August-December egg production is likely to be smaller than in 1956, and prices higher, there are limits to the quantity of eggs that might be stored without depressing further demand for additional eggs for storage. Accumulations of shell eggs have been on a long-term downtrend, and the peaks of the last 4 years have averaged less than 2 million cases. If holdings should substantially exceed this level before the season of high production has passed, further demand for eggs for storage in the shell would likely weaken, because even the likelihood of reduced fresh egg supplies in the fall, and a higher general level of egg prices, do not necessarily assure a proportionately larger outlet for stored eggs at prices that will be profitable to storers.

There are coresponding limits to the seasonal peak to which frozen egg stocks might rise, without discouraging further commercial egg breaking operations. Current stocks of frozen egg are 24 million pounds larger than

a year earlier. The 1956 season-peak stocks of 177 million pounds were 18 million smaller than a year earlier, but the relatively large production in the off-season months of 1956 resulted in smaller net withdrawals from storage. As a result, present stocks exceed last year. Storers now are reluctant to build stocks up to the levels of last summer unless it becomes reasonably apparent that egg prices in the fall will be high enough to discourage large-scale commercial production of liquid egg at that time.

Hen-Pullet Distribution in Current Laying Flock

Pullets made up 65 percent of the January 1 laying flock, compared with 63 percent at that time last year, but this is a smaller proportion than in other recent years. (table 10). These data indicate the situation for several months following, because the small monthly hatchings of replacement-type chicks in the fall result in too few newly-maturing pullets to alter substantially the hen-pullet ratio. Culling in the few months after January is also at a low ebb.

A year ago, the proportion of pullets to total layers was smaller than usual, reflecting the 14 percent cut in 1955 in the number of chickens raised, and the offsetting retention of a large number of hens for a second year of laying. Because hatcheries produced 7 percent more replacement chicks through midsummer 1956 than a year earlier, an almost proportionate increase in January 1, 1957 pullets had been expected. At the same time, a sharper cut was expected than actually reported in the number of hens on farms January 1, 1957. The larger cut had been expected because of the reduced number of chickens raised in 1955, the small number of 1955-hatched layers remaining in flocks on October 1, 1956, and the October 1 estimate of the hen-pullet breakdown of the laying flock.

The January 1 data are based upon a survey of wide scope. Schedules were returned by about 120,000 farmers. Monthly crop reports including the October 1 report are based upon typical returns of about 40 thousand. Therefore, the January 1 data on composition of the flock tend to supersede the October 1 figures which had suggested relatively more pullets and fewer hens (table 10). The more extensive January 1 survey also revealed a higher absolute level of chicken numbers for that date than was consistent with the previously-issued figure for December. Revisions have been issued and are reflected in table (2).

Broilers: Placements 4-7 Percent above Year-Earlier

Total broiler production is continuing to increase. Early March prices were above 20 cents per pound in major producing areas, but in the past few months low prices in the Northeast forced reductions in the

guarantees specified for growers in their agreements with contractors. West Coast prices also are so low as to force reductions in the output of the industry there. The Southeastern States seem to be less affected by the low prices. Less attractive off-farm work opportunities in the South than in other broiler areas are cited as one explanation for continued broiler expansion in that area, along with aggressive management of integrated operations.

Farmers' mid-February broiler prices averaged 19.4 cents per pound, compared with 18.0 cents a month earlier, and 19.7 cents as the (unweighted) 1956 average. During February on-farm quotations in the principal producing areas ranged between 17 and 19 cents per pound except on the Pacific Coast where prices were slightly higher.

Early March placements of almost 26 million chicks weekly were exceeded in 1956 in April, May, and June weekly averages but otherwise were higher than 1956 rates.

If usual seasonal patterns carry through, placements are likely to rise in the next few months, and later marketings will be correspondingly larger than at present. Such a trend may be encouraged by the rise in early March in broiler prices. Demand tends also to rise seasonally to a summer peak. Consequently, influences of shifting supply and demand may about offset each other, and little net change is likely in farmers' broiler prices in the next few months,

A smaller number of chicks is expected to be raised this year for laying flock replacement, and late-summer competition with broilers from young by-product cockerels as a result will likely be less than in 1956. In 1955 farmers raised 14 percent fewer replacement-type chickens than in the preceding year. The correspondingly reduced marketings of cockerels in August and September of that year helped support broiler prices in these months despite the then-record level of broiler marketings.

Turkeys: Large Crop Coming; Storage Holdings Record

Poult hatchings to date exceed intentions reported earlier in the year. In January, turkey raisers intended to increase their operations 10 percent above the 1956 record crop of 76 million turkeys. Earlier, farmers keeping turkey breeder hens had also expressed intentions toward an increase. January hatchings and February 1 eggs in incubators are ahead of last year by about 50 and 25 percent respectively, but later hatchings in the peak months of the year are likely to show smaller increases.

The 1957 production increases are likely to be mostly in heavy breeds. Farmers' intentions to raise, called for a 13 percent increase in heavy breeds including whites, but a 3 percent decline in small-breed turkeys. January hatchings of all heavy breeds were up 62 percent from 1956 (whites, +14 percent, bronze, + 103 percent), and light-breed

turkeys were up 14 percent. Eggs in incubators on February 1 were up from last year by 26 percent for heavy breeds and 21 percent for light. In 11 important States, weekly egg settings since February 1 have averaged slightly above last year for each of the 3 major categories of turkeys.

Sales of turkeys by farmers are now near a seasonal low point. Sales of breeder hens will be heavy in April, and sales of young turkeys will be increasing at that time. But it usually is late summer before current marketings exceed consumption, and then a surplus becomes available for storage. Current storage stocks are the largest on record for the date. February 1 holdings of 171 million pounds were 75 million pounds larger than a year earlier. A privately-conducted survey of these stocks indicates, as in past years, that they are preponderantly of large turkeys (table 15) for which the best outlet is mass-feeding establishments.

Wholesale prices of frozen ready-to-cook turkeys in New York are 8 to 11 cents a pound below a year ago. Contrary to the situation at holiday seasons when the principal demands are for consumer-size turkeys, the highest prices now are for the heaviest toms, which are used in restaurants, hotels, and institutions. Such birds require little more effort in preparation than smaller birds yielding fewer servings. The net yield of edible meat per gross pound also is more favorable on the large turkeys. Last year's steady price rise until mid-summer for heavy turkeys is unlikely this year.

The next issue of The Poultry and Egg Situation is scheduled for release on May 20.

LIST OF TABLES

Table Number	Title	Page
1	Egg prices, selected dates, 1956, with comparisons	11
2	Number of layers on farms, rate of egg production, and total egg output on farms, monthly data, August 1952 to date	12
3	Storage stocks of shell eggs: First-of-month, U. S., 1950 to date; weekly, 35 cities, April 1956 to date	13
4	Storage stocks of frozen egg: First-of-month, U. S., 1950 to date; weekly, 35 cities, April 1956 to date	13
5	Frozen egg, by types: Stocks and New York wholesale prices per pound, 1957 to date with comparisons	14
6	Pullets saved and related data, available data, selected years, 1945 to date	15
7	Egg-feed price ratio, farmers' intentions to raise chickens, chickens raised, and pullets on farms, United States, 1925 to date	16
8	Indications of changes in monthly distribution of replacement chicks during hatching season, 1952 to date	17
9	Monthly hatchings of replacement-type chickens, United States, available data, 1954 to date, and replacement-type eggs in incubators, February 1957, and chickens raised, 1954 to date	17
10	Composition of the January 1 laying flock, 1950 to date, and origins of each category	18
11	Broiler chick placements related to 1955 and 1956 production, 22 important States, 2 areas, etc.	19
12	Turkeys: U. S. average farm prices, storage holdings, hatchings, and slaughter, available data, 1954 to date	20
13	Turkeys raised and related data; available data, 1930 to date	21
14	Turkeys: Numbers raised, 1953 to date, and intentions to raise turkeys, 1957	22
15	Turkeys: Composition of storage stocks, available data, September 1953 to date	22
16	Turkeys: Production, price, and consumption, 1940 to date	23
17	Poultry feeds and ingredients: Prices, January 1956 to date	24

Table 1.- Egg prices, selected dates, 1956, with comparisons

Item	1956-56					1956-57				
	Nov. 15	Dec. 15	Jan. 13	Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Nov. 15	Dec. 14	Jan. 15	Feb. 15	Mar. 8
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
U. S. average mid-month price received by farmers, per dozen 1/	43.4	47.1	46.6	40.2	39.6	37.2	37.1	33.2	32.8	
Iowa prices received by farmers, per dozen 1/:										
Grade A, Large	40-43	40-43	37-39	32-34	32-36	30-33	28-30	23-25	24-25	22-23
Grade A, Medium	29-30	35-38	34-37	29-31	31-32	20-22	23-25	20-21	21-22	20-21
New York, wholesale prices										
Midwestern, mixed colors, per dozen:										
Fancy heavy-weights	50-52½	51-52½	48-50	42½-43½	44-45½	42-44	37-38	34½-36	33½-34½	32-33
Extras 1, medium	41-42	47-48½	47-48	41-41½	41½-42½	29½-30	33½-34½	29-30	31½-32	31-31½
Nearby whites, per dozen:										
Extra fancy, heavy-weights	53-55½	55-57	53-55	43-44½	46¼-48½	46-48	43-45	37½-40	34½-35½	33½-35
Medium	47-48	51-52½	50-52	42-42½	45-45½	31-32	34-35	31-32	34-34½	31-32
Small (pullets)	35½-36½	44-44½	46-47	---	---	25-26	32-33	28-29	32-33	28½-29½
Frozen egg, per pound 2/:										
Mixed whole egg, spring pack	28-30	30½-32	4/ 33½-35	33-34	5/ 31-32½	27-30	28-30	26-27	26½-27½	25½-26½
Yolk 3/	53-55	53-55	4/ 54-55	54-55	48-51	54-55	54-55½	51-54	51-54	50-53
Albumen	21½-24½	24½-25½	4/ 26-28	27-29	25½-29	16½-21	17-19	15-16½	14-16	14-15½
Chicago										
Wholesale price, per dozen:										
Mixed colors, extras,										
Large	50½-51	51-51½	45½-46	40-40½	39-39½	40-40½	34½-35	31-31½	31-31½	29½-30
Medium	41-41½	48-49	44-44½	39-39½	38-38½	29½-30	31-31½	27½-28	30-30½	28-28½
Future contracts:										
September delivery (closing price)	42.50A	43.60	45.25	44.30	43.60	39.35	39.50	38.55	38.35	36.95
San Francisco, wholesale price, per dozen:										
Grade A, Large	49½-50½	56½-57½	55½-56½	44½-45½	45½-46½	51-52	48-49	43-44	41-42	37-38
Grade A, Medium	41-41½	56-56½	53-53½	41-41½	43-43½	44-45	45-46	40-41	39-40	33-34

1/ "Mostly," except where otherwise stated.
2/ Carlots. Weekly price.
3/ Highest color quoted.
4/ Week ending Jan. 13.
5/ Current pack ending Jan. 4.

Table 2.- Number of layers on farms, rate of egg production, and total egg output on farms, monthly data, August 1952 to date

Item and year	Unit	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July
						(a) Monthly average data							
Average number of layers on hand	Mil.												
1952-53		277	298	325	343	350	346	336	324	311	296	283	273
1953-54		274	295	322	339	346	343	334	322	309	295	283	276
1954-55		283	307	331	342	345	338	328	319	306	294	283	276
1955-56		280	299	321	331	334	331	325	315	305	294	285	281
1956-57		288	307	326	335	338	335	326					
Eggs laid per 100 layers	Eggs												
1952-53		1,408	1,299	1,295	1,267	1,383	1,502	1,490	1,797	1,803	1,813	1,663	1,589
1953-54		1,481	1,341	1,357	1,339	1,424	1,484	1,498	1,837	1,819	1,847	1,672	1,579
1954-55		1,475	1,366	1,384	1,376	1,482	1,548	1,491	1,800	1,844	1,900	1,751	1,672
1955-56		1,537	1,417	1,444	1,412	1,492	1,562	1,586	1,832	1,838	1,891	1,745	1,694
1956-57		1,585	1,452	1,492	1,460	1,561	1,604	1,539					
Total monthly egg production	Mil. cases												
1952-53		10.8	10.8	11.7	12.1	13.4	14.4	13.9	16.2	15.6	14.9	13.1	12.1
1953-54		11.3	11.0	12.2	12.6	13.7	14.2	13.9	16.4	15.6	15.1	13.1	12.1
1954-55		11.6	11.7	12.7	13.1	14.2	14.5	13.6	15.9	15.7	15.5	13.8	12.8
1955-56		11.9	11.8	12.9	13.0	13.8	14.4	14.3	16.0	15.6	15.5	13.8	13.2
1956-57		12.7	12.4	13.5	13.6	14.7	14.9	14.0					
						(b) First-of-month data							
Number of layers on hand	Mil.												
1952-53		270	283	314	337	349	350	341	330	318	304	289	277
1953-54		270	279	311	334	346	347	339	328	316	301	289	277
1954-55		274	291	323	339	346	344	332	325	312	300	287	278
1955-56		274	285	314	328	335	332	329	321	309	299	288	280
1956-57		281	294	317	329	337	338	330	322				
Eggs laid per 100 layers	Eggs												
1952-53		46.6	44.2	42.4	41.2	43.3	46.0	50.9	55.6	60.3	59.8	57.9	53.0
1953-54		49.6	46.0	43.5	44.2	45.1	46.8	48.9	58.1	60.4	60.8	58.3	53.1
1954-55		48.6	46.5	44.5	44.8	46.9	48.7	51.1	55.4	60.7	62.3	60.3	56.6
1955-56		51.2	47.9	46.6	46.6	47.6	48.7	52.0	57.4	60.8	61.8	60.3	56.1
1956-57		53.2	49.0	47.8	48.5	48.9	51.8	51.7	58.2				
Daily rate of egg production	Mil. eggs												
1952-53		126	125	133	139	151	161	173	184	192	182	167	147
1953-54		134	128	135	148	156	162	166	191	191	183	169	147
1954-55		133	135	144	152	162	168	170	180	190	187	173	157
1955-56		140	137	146	153	159	162	171	184	188	185	174	157
1956-57		150	144	152	160	165	175	171	188				

Table 3.- Storage stocks of shell eggs: First-of-month, U. S., 1950 to date; weekly, 35 cities, April 1956 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases
					(a) Monthly, U. S.							
1950	110	380	735	1,296	2,147	3,412	3,667	3,163	2,568	1,558	502	61
1951	34	75	159	309	973	2,083	2,427	2,270	1,615	958	527	230
1952	141	238	942	1,596	2,184	3,184	3,357	2,728	2,169	1,709	1,000	393
1953	153	120	248	375	816	1,431	1,513	1,199	827	494	288	137
1954	89	73	133	442	728	1,348	1,639	1,435	1,031	833	636	325
1955	193	235	258	479	1,183	2,088	2,292	2,244	1,680	1,140	804	333
1956	111	299	306	309	638	1,200	1,453	1,259	1,020	727	616	525
1957	320	330										
					(b) Weekly, 35 cities							
Weeks	1957			1956								
First	203	246	395	252	556	967	1,176	1,024	844	558	447	356
Second	214	282	475	295	644	1,049	1,153	990	782	541	408	310
Third	230	310		369	737	1,116	1,111	952	710	502	378	256
Fourth	244	350		461	854	1,152	1,054	910	630	473	391	207
Fifth						1,182			590			199

Table 4 .- Storage stocks of frozen egg: First-of-month, U. S., 1950 to date; weekly, 35 cities, April 1956 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
					(a) Monthly, U. S.							
1950	54	55	73	117	155	180	188	175	155	133	104	76
1951	47	31	33	62	109	163	190	191	176	151	122	95
1952	67	53	61	84	111	146	166	163	144	124	95	72
1953	50	35	42	65	99	132	160	153	133	110	87	61
1954	42	38	42	92	136	167	186	181	161	139	118	95
1955	75	66	63	84	126	171	194	195	180	155	128	101
1956	74	51	42	61	95	140	172	177	168	152	132	109
1957	87	75										
					(b) Weekly, 35 cities							
Weeks	1957			1956								
First	46	41	37	36	51	71	90	94	91	80	70	59
Second	45	42	37	39	56	76	92	94	89	78	67	55
Third	44	40		43	60	79	93	93	86	76	64	52
Fourth	43	39		47	65	84	94	92	84	73	62	49
Fifth						88			83			48

Table 5.- Frozen egg, by types: Stocks and New York wholesale prices per pound, 1957 to date with comparisons

Item	Year	Unit	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June
Albumen								
Stocks on first of month	1955	Mil.lb.	25	21	20	25	37	50
	1956	Mil.lb.	17	11	9	15	25	39
	1957	Mil.lb.	28	27				
Average prices, first full week of month	1955	Ct.	15 3/4	20	21	18 3/4	19	19 1/2
	1956	Ct.	27	28	27 1/2	23 3/4	24 1/4	23 1/4
	1957	Ct.	16 1/4	15 1/4	14 3/4			
Yolk								
Stocks on first of month	1955	Mil.lb.	18	16	17	23	32	43
	1956	Mil.lb.	23	18	15	20	29	38
	1957	Mil.lb.	20	17				
Average prices, first full week of month 1/	1955	Ct.	2/	2/	2/	50 1/4	53	52
	1956	Ct.	54 1/2	54 1/2	53	50 1/2	51 3/4	49 1/2
	1957	Ct.	53	52 1/2	51 1/2			
Mixed whole								
Stocks on first of month	1955	Mil.lb.	29	25	23	32	52	71
	1956	Mil.lb.	29	19	15	22	35	56
	1957	Mil.lb.	34	28				
Average prices, first full week of month 3/	1955	Ct.	26	32 3/4	32 1/2	28 1/4	29 1/4	28 1/2
	1956	Ct.	34 1/4	33 1/2	2/	31 3/4	33 1/2	32
	1957	Ct.	25 1/4	26 1/2	26			

1/ Highest color quoted.
2/ Insufficient wholesale sales to report prices.
3/ "Spring pack" whenever quoted separately.

"Unclassified" frozen egg is not included in this table.

Table 6.- Pullets saved and related data, available data, selected years, 1945 to date

Item	Unit	1945	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957 1/
Replacement-type chicks hatched, 12 months beginning preceding September	Mil.								688.5	
Chickens raised	Mil.	890.4	619.8	622.9	561.0	547.5	539.9	461.9	471.9	
Percentage composition of farmers' purchases of replacement type chicks										
a. Straight run	Pct.	77	63	62	58	53	45	43	40	40
b. Sexed pullets	Pct.	18	32	33	37	42	49	50	53	54
c. Sexed cockerels	Pct.	5	5	5	5	5	6	7	7	6
d. Computed percentage of pullets in total purchases	Pct.	56.5	63.5	64.0	66.0	68.5	71.5	71.5	73.0	74.0
Pullets among chickens raised (computed)	Mil.	503.1	393.6	398.7	370.3	375.0	386.0	330.2	344.5	
Number of young birds on hand October 1										
Laying pullets	Mil.	128.1	140.7	143.4	142.4	154.5	168.3	147.9	168.0	
Pullets not yet laying	Mil.	242.5	142.2	144.5	116.6	111.8	104.3	94.3	93.1	
Pullets laying and not yet laying	Mil.	370.6	282.9	287.9	259.1	266.3	272.6	242.2	261.2	
Other young chickens	Mil.	137.3	75.5	73.5	58.7	57.6	41.8	35.6	30.1	
Pullets and young chickens	Mil.	507.9	358.4	361.5	317.7	323.9	314.5	277.8	291.3	
Number of young birds on hand January 1 following										
Laying pullets	Mil.	269.3	228.7	231.4	215.0	231.3	232.7	211.1	219.4	
Pullets not yet laying	Mil.	52.8	29.4	30.6	22.6	23.8	24.5	27.4	32.2	
All pullets	Mil.	322.1	258.2	261.4	237.6	255.1	257.2	238.6	251.6	
October 1 pullets (laying and not laying) as a percentage of:										
Replacement-type chicks hatched	Pct.								38	
Chickens raised	Pct.	42	46	46	46	49	50	52	55	
All pullets January 1 following as a percentage of:										
Replacement-type chicks hatched	Pct.								37	
Chickens raised	Pct.	36	42	42	42	47	48	52	53	

1/ Intended purchases of baby chicks.

Table 7.- Egg-feed price ratio, farmers' intentions to raise chickens, chickens raised, and pullets on farms, United States, 1925 to date

Year	Egg-feed price ratio (weighted average) 1/	Chickens raised	Pullets on farms, January 1 following	Percentage of preceding year: Farmers' intentions to raise chickens	Egg-feed price ratio (weighted average) 1/	Chickens raised	Pullets on farms, January 1 following
	Lb.	Mil.	Mil.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
1925	12.9	679				103	
1926	13.5	718			105	106	
1927	13.4	750			99	104	
1928	12.2	700			91	93	
1929	13.1	751	253		107	107	
1930	13.8	777	244		105	103	96
1931	10.6	709	230		77	91	94
1932	11.6	736	237		109	104	103
1933	14.3	750	238		123	102	100
1934	10.9	644	212		76	86	89
1935	11.4	658	226		105	102	107
1936	13.1	715	249		115	109	110
1937	9.4	601	215		72	84	86
1938	11.4	651	242	108	121	108	113
1939	12.6	697	254	108	111	107	105
1940	10.4	634	240	96	83	91	94
1941	11.5	745	278	109	111	118	116
1942	13.2	844	319	112	115	113	115
1943	14.7	1,001	350	116	111	119	110
1944	11.2	832	301	83	76	83	86
1945	12.8	890	322	96	114	107	107
1946	11.9	738	281	86	93	83	87
1947	11.3	719	278	94	85	97	99
1948	9.8	615	258	80	87	86	93
1949	12.7	705	287	107	130	115	111
1950	9.6	620	258	88	76	77	90
1951	11.4	623	261	96	119	101	101
1952	9.1	561	238	90	80	90	91
1953	11.3	548	255	96	124	98	107
1954	10.9	540	257	100	96	99	101
1955 2/	9.7	462	239	82	89	86	93
1956 2/	12.1 (12.9)	2/472	252	103	125	102	105
1957 3/	(9.6)			91	(74)		

1/ Weights are as follows: Preceding November, 1; preceding December, 2; January, 3; February, 4; March, 5; April, 3; May, 1. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ For 1957, November - February; comparable 1956 in parentheses.

Table 8.- Indications of changes in monthly distribution of replacement chicks during hatching season, 1952 to date

Item and year	Unit	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July
Hatchery output of chicks for farm flock replacement							
Percentage of previous year							
1952	Percent	112	104	92	74	52	n.a.
1953	do.	97	99	102	107	127	n.a.
1954	do.	118	117	109	94	76	n.a.
1955	do.	n.a.	73	81	77	93	n.a.
1956	do.	121	103	101	105	108	106
Young chickens on farms for flock replacement, first of month							
Number							
1952	Million			221.9	356.4	428.7	463.0
1953	do.			219.2	342.7	405.6	464.2
1954	do.			229.8	345.8	409.4	475.9
1955	do.			169.9	273.8	329.3	n.a.
1956	do.			177.9	279.8	333.1	n.a.
Young chickens on farms for flock replacement, first of month							
Percentage of previous year							
1952	Percent			102	93	90	91
1953	do.			99	96	95	100
1954	do.			105	101	101	103
1955	do.			74	79	80	n.a.
1956	do.			105	102	101	n.a.

n.a. - Not available.

Table 9.-Monthly hatchings of replacement-type chickens, United States, available data, 1954 to date, and replacement-type eggs in incubators, February 1957, and chickens raised, 1954 to date

Item	1954	1955	1956	1957
	Million	Million	Million	Million
Hatchings				
January		32.9	40.7	32.3
February		71.2	86.0	2/(70)
March	1/201.5	148.8	153.8	
April	1/193.9	163.9	165.3	
May	1/111.5	107.9	113.1	
June	1/33.9	32.7	35.2	
July		14.9	15.8	
August		12.6	14.5	
September		14.1	15.3	
October		16.6	17.3	
November		15.5	15.7	
December		17.5	16.0	
Total, calendar year		648.6		
Total, 12 months ending July of given year			685.3	
Chickens raised, calendar year	540.0	461.9	471.9	

1/ Derived.
2/ Eggs in incubators first of month as a percentage of preceding year.

Table 10.- Composition of the January 1 laying flock, 1950 to date, and origins of each category

a. Pullets

Year	Number of chickens raised	Percent of farmers' chick purchases bought as sexed pullets	Presumed number of pullets in chickens raised 1/		Pullets on hand, January 1, following				
								Total as a percent of-	
			Number	Percent	Laying	Not yet laying	Total (from unrounded data)	Chickens raised	"Pullets" raised
	Mil.	Pct.	Mil.	Pct.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Pct.	Pct.
1950	620	32	397	64	229	29	258	42	60
1951	623	33	399	64	231	30	261	42	66
1952	561	37	370	66	215	23	238	42	64
1953	548	42	378	69	231	24	255	47	68
1954	540	49	394	73	233	25	257	48	65
1955	462	50	351	76	211	27	239	52	68
1956	472	53	344	73	219	32	252	53	73
1957		2/54		74					

b. Hens

Year	Pullets on farms, Jan. 1	Hens on farms, Jan. 1 following	Hens as a percent of pullets
	Mil.	Mil.	Pct.
1950	287	141	49
1951	258	136	53
1952	261	135	52
1953	238	116	49
1954	255	111	44
1955	257	122	47
1956	239	120	50
1957	252		

1/ Including allowance for chicks bought straight run as well as straight cockerels.

2/ Intentions.

Table 11.- Broiler chick placements related to 1955 and 1956 production, 22 important States, 2 areas, etc. *

State and area	Data related to 1955 production:-			1955 production	Placements as a percentage of production	Data related to 1956 production			1956 production	Placements as a percentage of production
	Last 10 weeks of 1954	First 42 weeks of 1955	Total			Last 10 weeks of 1955	First 42 weeks of 1956	Total		
	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Pct.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Pct.
Maine	5,667	28,123	33,790	33,438	101	7,399	36,243	43,642	43,469	100
Connecticut	4,162	22,137	26,299	25,852	102	5,492	25,323	30,815	30,505	101
Pennsylvania	4,416	26,722	31,138	30,318	103	6,180	31,653	37,833	37,291	101
Indiana	5,427	29,399	34,826	32,368	108	7,339	32,861	40,200	38,518	104
Illinois	1,420	7,803	9,223	8,691	106	1,591	7,709	9,300	9,126	102
Missouri	3,742	23,371	27,113	25,767	105	5,145	27,343	32,488	31,700	102
Delaware]	9,990	65,278	75,268	69,820	108	13,987	74,948	88,935	85,669	104
Maryland	9,653	53,142	62,795	58,367	108	11,431	58,013	69,444	67,033	104
Virginia	8,462	50,710	59,172	55,179	107	10,915	55,101	66,016	61,249	108
West Virginia	3,114	20,644	23,758	21,873	109	4,463	21,210	25,673	24,498	105
North Carolina	8,744	66,033	74,777	72,936	103	13,462	84,039	97,501	94,087	104
South Carolina	1,648	8,957	10,605	10,053	105	2,199	11,952	14,151	13,359	113
Georgia	26,882	158,612	185,494	177,642	104	35,257	199,820	235,077	222,780	106
Florida	1,593	8,098	9,691	9,389	103	2,004	10,891	12,895	11,830	109
Alabama	8,743	50,950	59,693	57,764	103	12,845	72,021	84,866	82,085	103
Mississippi	6,138	33,657	39,795	37,486	106	8,584	47,394	55,978	52,855	106
Arkansas	12,042	69,409	81,451	76,954	106	17,021	86,514	103,535	99,271	104
Louisiana	1,819	10,368	12,187	11,666	104	2,916	13,451	16,367	15,716	104
Texas	12,208	69,136	81,344	79,687	102	17,714	85,450	103,164	99,887	103
Washington	1,588	8,679	10,267	9,782	105	1,727	10,025	11,752	11,115	106
Oregon	901	5,616	6,517	6,133	106	1,180	7,705	8,885	8,382	106
California	8,529	43,430	51,959	48,516	107	9,612	46,643	56,255	52,397	107
Total, 22 States	146,888	849,456	996,344	959,681	105	198,463	1,046,309	1,244,772	1,192,822	104
Total, United States 1/				1,078,264					n.a.	
Del-Mar-Va.	20,769	124,845	145,614			26,576	138,299	164,875		
Shenandoah Valley	6,778	43,533	50,311			9,170	44,407	53,577		

1/ Preliminary. * This table should be used instead of table 15 in PES-187, which was in error.

Table 12.- Turkeys: U. S. average farm prices, storage holdings, hatchings, and slaughter, available data, 1954 to date

Item, year, and/or week	Unit	Month												Total or average
		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
U. S. average farm price														
1954	Ct. per lb.	33.2	33.9	33.6	33.3	31.0	31.3	28.6	27.8	27.6	27.0	28.5	29.6	30.4
1955	Ct. per lb.	27.4	29.5	30.4	29.7	28.9	29.4	29.6	29.5	37.0	31.2	29.8	30.5	29.7
1956	Ct. per lb.	31.0	31.4	32.1	30.9	30.8	29.8	28.9	28.7	27.0	25.8	26.0	27.7	29.2
1957	Ct. per lb.	27.6	27.3											
Storage holdings, first of month														
1954	Mil. lb.	122.1	124.9	108.8	97.3	79.3	68.6	57.4	48.0	50.6	77.6	141.0	146.7	
1955	Mil. lb.	121.0	124.0	110.7	92.5	70.7	60.2	51.5	45.0	48.0	76.9	144.3	129.0	
1956	Mil. lb.	95.0	95.9	83.0	63.9	49.1	40.5	36.0	36.1	53.0	98.2	196.5	194.0	
1957	Mil. lb.	162.1	170.9											
Hatchings														
Heavy breed white														
1956	Mil. poults	0.9	1.1	1.9	2.9	1/3.7	1/2.8	1/1.6	1/0.6	1/0.3	0.4	0.5	0.9	17.5
1957	Mil. poults	1.0												
Other heavy breeds														
1956	Mil. poults	1.0	3.7	9.2	12.9	1/13.2	1/7.9	1/1.4	2/	2/	2/	.2	1.3	51.0
1957	Mil. poults	2.1												
Total, heavy breeds														
1955	Mil. poults	1.2	2.7	7.8	12.8	14.8	9.0	2.1	.3	.1	.2	.4	1.0	52.6
1956	Mil. poults	1.9	4.8	11.1	15.7	16.9	10.7	3.0	.7	.3	.4	.8	2.2	68.5
1957	Mil. poults	3.1												
Light breeds														
1955	Mil. poults	1.4	1.1	1.1	1.8	2.4	2.6	2.2	1.2	.4	.3	.5	.9	15.9
1956	Mil. poults	.9	.8	1.0	1.5	2.3	2.4	2.2	1.1	.4	.3	.7	1.1	14.6
1957	Mil. poults	1.0												
Total, all breeds														
1955	Mil. poults	2.6	3.8	8.9	14.6	17.2	11.6	4.3	1.5	.6	.5	.9	1.9	68.4
1956	Mil. poults	2.8	5.6	12.1	17.3	19.2	13.1	5.2	1.8	.7	.7	1.4	3.3	83.0
1957	Mil. poults	4.1												
Slaughter														
1956 as a percentage of year earlier														
First week	Pct.	78	93	113	77	87	96	118	174	152	134	126	112	
Second week	Pct.	74	85	101	39	98	91	162	154	160	128	122	107	
Third week	Pct.	79	91	147	74	103	128	134	154	153	120	129	115	
Fourth week	Pct.	147	97	94	83	105	116	149	127	137	127	130	185	
Fifth week	Pct.				106			144			120		119	

1/ Derived.
2/ Less than .05 million.

Table 13.- Turkeys raised and related data; available data, 1930 to date

Year	Absolute numbers: Turkeys raised	Absolute numbers: Turkey-feed price ratio 1/	Absolute numbers: Breeder hens on farms, Jan. 1	Change from preceding year: Number: Turkeys raised 2/	Change from preceding year: Number: Turkey-feed price ratio 1/	Change from preceding year: Number: Breeder hens on farms, Jan. 1 2/	Change from preceding year: Percent: Turkeys raised 2/	Change from preceding year: Percent: Turkey-feed price ratio 1/	Change from preceding year: Percent: Farmers' intentions to raise turkeys	Change from preceding year: Percent: Breeder hens on farms, Jan. 1 2/
	Mil.	Lb.	Mil.	Mil.	Lb.	Mil.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
					a. All turkeys					
1930	17	11.2		-1	-1.9		-6	-15		
1931	18	10.7		1	-0.5		5	-4		
1932	22	14.6		4	3.9		22	36		
1933	23	11.7		1	-2.9		4	-20		
1934	22	8.0		-2	-3.7		-7	-32		
1935	21	7.6		-1	-.4		-4	-5		
1936	28	12.2		7	4.6		34	61		
1937	26	6.6	3.5	-2	-5.6		-8	-46		
1938	27	10.7	3.2	1	4.1	-0.3	4	62	6	-7
1939	34	12.5	3.9	7	1.8	.7	25	17	27	21
1940	34	9.4	4.6	3/	-3.1	.7	1	-25	5	18
1941	33	9.4	3.8	-1	0	-.8	-4	0	-3	-16
1942	33	10.1	4.0	3/	.7	.1	4/	7	8	3
1943	32	12.4	3.9	-1	2.3	-.1	-2	23	12	-2
1944	35	11.3	4.2	3	-1.1	.3	10	-9	2	8
1945	43	11.8	4.5	8	.5	.3	22	4	8	7
1946	40	11.1	4.8	-3	-.7	.3	-6	-6	-5	7
1947	34	10.2	3.8	-6	-.9	-1.1	-15	-8	-16	-22
1948	32	7.7	2.5	-2	-2.5	-1.2	-7	-25	-18	-33
1949	41	13.1	3.1	10	5.4	.6	31	70	25	24
1950	44	10.2	3.3	3	-2.9	.1	8	-22	1	4
1951	53	9.0	3.2	9	-1.2	.1	20	-12	1	-2
1952	62	9.2	3.7	9	.2	.5	17	2	11	15
1953	60	8.2	3.2	-3	-1.0	-.5	-4	-11	-8	-14
1954	68	9.1	3.1	8	.9	-.1	13	11	7	-2
1955 5/	66	7.5	3.0	-2	-1.6	-.1	-3	-18	-4	-3
1956 5/	76	9.0	3.2	11	1.5	.2	16	20	6	7
1957 5/		7.5	3.6		-1.5			-17	10	12
					b. Heavy-breed turkeys					
1953	43		2.7	6/-1			6/-2		-3	
1954	49		2.4	5		-.3	12		6	-9
1955 5/	49		2.5	3/		3/	4/		0	2
1956 5/	63		2.8	14		.3	29		14	12
1957 5/			3.2			.4			13	14
					c. Light-breed turkeys					
1953	16		0.5	6/-2			6/-9		-23	
1954	19		.7	3		.2	17		9	40
1955 5/	17		.5	-2		-.1	-12		-11	-19
1956 5/	14		.5	-3		-.1	-19		-16	-14
1957 5/			.4			3/			-3	-2

1/ Weighted average of monthly ratios as follows: 1930-44, preceding October, 1; preceding November, 4; preceding December, 4; January, 1. 1945 to date, preceding October, 2; preceding November, 4; preceding December, 3; January, 1. 2/ Computed from unrounded data. 3/ Change smaller than 0.5. 4/ Less than 0.05. 5/ Preliminary. 6/ Derived.

Table 14.- Turkeys: Numbers raised, 1953 to date, and intentions to raise turkeys, 1957

Year	Heavy breed			Light breed	All turkeys
	White 1/	Other 1/	Total		
	Million	Million	Million	Million	Million
Raised					
1953			43.4	16.4	59.8
1954			48.5	19.2	67.7
1955			48.8	16.8	65.6
1956 2/					
U. S. total	15.5	47.2	62.8	13.6	76.3
North Atlantic	2.4	1.6	4.1	0.6	4.6
East North Central	3.0	5.3	8.4	1.7	10.0
West North Central	5.6	13.1	18.7	2.5	21.2
South Atlantic	1.9	4.8	6.7	5.9	12.6
South Central	1.9	5.7	7.5	1.2	8.8
Western	0.7	16.7	17.4	1.7	19.1
Intentions to raise turkeys 3/					
1957					
U. S. total	17.1	54.1	71.2	13.1	84.3
North Atlantic	2.4	1.7	4.1	.6	4.6
East North Central	3.5	6.0	9.5	1.4	10.9
West North Central	6.6	15.6	22.2	2.3	24.5
South Atlantic	1.9	5.9	7.7	6.4	14.2
South Central	2.1	6.5	8.6	1.2	9.8
Western	.6	18.4	19.0	1.2	20.2

1/ Derived.
2/ Preliminary.
3/ As of January, 1957.

Table 15.- Turkeys: Composition of storage stocks, available data, September 1953 to date

	Percentage of total reported holdings, by weight							
	September 30				January 31			
	1953	1954	1955	1956 1/	1954	1955	1956	1957
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
Eviscerated tom turkeys	36	41	30	33	73	72	74	79
Eviscerated hen turkeys	45	46	55	56	8	18	17	16
Eviscerated broiler-fryer type turkeys	11	7	13	10	3	4	5	4
N. Y. dressed tom turkeys	5	5	1	1	15	4	3	1
N. Y. dressed hen turkeys	3	1	1	1	1	2	1	2/
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Size of sample on which percentages are based	46	50	48	59	87	80	70	108
Total U. S. cold-storage holdings, same date	69	78	77	98	125	124	96	171

1/ Do not add to 100 due to rounding.
2/ Less than 0.05 percent.

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Table 16.- Turkeys: Production, price, and consumption, 1940 to date

Year	Turkeys raised		Turkeys slaughtered, ready-to-cook weight	U.S. average price received by farmers, Oct.-Dec. per lb., live	Average civilian per capita consumption, ready-to-cook equivalent	Storage holdings at beginning of year
	Number	Average live weight, per head				
	Mil.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Ct.	Lb.	Mil. lb.
1940	33.8	15.1	393	15.4	2.9	52.3
1941	32.6	15.9	380	20.0	2.9	60.6
1942	32.5	16.3	402	26.9	3.0	50.0
1943	31.8	16.2	372	32.0	2.7	35.6
1944	35.1	16.8	441	33.4	2.7	36.6
1945	42.9	17.4	545	33.0	3.4	72.6
1946	40.1	18.0	564	37.2	3.7	108.2
1947	34.0	18.1	484	36.6	3.5	128.3
1948	31.5	18.3	421	46.7	3.0	82.6
1949	41.3	18.8	570	34.4	3.2	50.5
1950	44.4	18.6	615	32.8	4.0	126.9
1951	52.3	17.9	703	37.7	4.4	110.1
1952	62.3	16.9	795	33.7	4.6	106.8
1953	59.8	17.0	758	33.9	4.7	146.6
1954	67.7	17.2	871	28.4	5.2	122.1
1955	65.6	16.7	818	30.5	5.0	121.0
1956	76.3			26.5	5.1	95.0
1957	1/84.3					162.1

1/ Intentions as of January 1.

Table 17.- Poultry feeds and ingredients:
Prices, January 1956 to date

Month	U. S. average value of poultry ration, per 100 lbs.		Average price paid by farmers per 100 pounds for						Weekly average carlot prices, at about mid-month, converted to per 100-pound equivalent, Chicago			
			Laying mash		Broiler mash		Scratch grains		No. 2 yellow corn		Soybean meal, 44 percent protein	
	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
January	3.39	3.58	4.36	4.49	4.79	4.93	3.93	4.13	2.28	2.45	3.09	3.06
February	3.40	3.56	4.36	4.51	4.81	4.93	3.93	4.11	2.32		3.02	2.92
March	3.42		4.36		4.81		3.95		2.40		2.90	
April	3.51		4.42		4.91		4.05		2.66		3.21	
May	3.62		4.57		5.02		4.14		2.76		3.54	
June	3.63		4.57		5.06		4.14		2.79		3.60	
July	3.64		4.58		5.08		4.16		2.84		3.31	
August	3.66		4.57		5.10		4.19		2.82		3.16	
September	3.65		4.55		5.05		4.18		2.87		3.40	
October	3.53		4.49		4.97		4.13		2.38		3.36	
November	3.54		4.47		4.91		4.11		2.60		2.94	
December	3.56		4.48		4.94		4.11		2.47		2.91	

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